

# The County of Centre

## PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 17 OF 2016

**WHEREAS**, Pennsylvania's correctional system is the oldest in the Nation, evolving from the establishment of Philadelphia's Walnut Street Jail in 1773 and the Eastern Penitentiary in 1829; and

**WHEREAS**, the "Pennsylvania System," as it became known, was the leading influence in the development of penology throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the forerunner of modern corrections; and

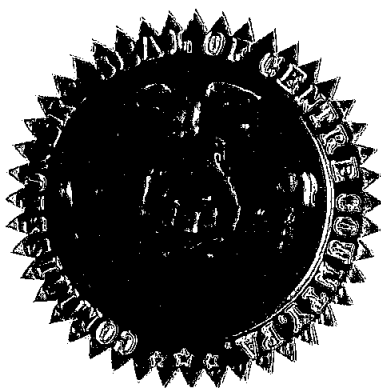
**WHEREAS**, today, Pennsylvania faces new and difficult challenges in corrections with 25 state correctional institutions, one motivational boot camp, a training academy, 13 community corrections centers, over 43 contract facilities, 63 county prisons and jails, and 15 federal facilities and offices all of which house more than 100,000 inmates; and

**WHEREAS**, the safe and secure operation and management of those facilities on a daily basis rests in the hands of more than 28,000 trained, skilled and dedicated corrections professionals. They are administrators, corrections officers, counselors, treatment specialists, educators, clerical support staff, business administrators and purchasing agents, personnel and labor relations specialists, clergy, medical professionals, food service specialists, computer technicians, planners and research analysts and skilled craftspeople upon whose skills, efficiency and professionalism support the functions of the Pennsylvania correctional system; and

**WHEREAS**, although each of these dedicated professionals work in different fields and specialize in a specific area, all are committed to a common goal: the safe, secure and humane operation of our correctional facilities where employees work to reduce future crime through the delivery of programs to change offenders' criminal behavior;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim May 1-7, 2016, as "**Corrections Employee Week**" in Centre County and encourages all citizens to recognize the vital role these dedicated professionals play in ensuring the effective operation of our correctional system in the interest of public safety in our community.


**ADOPTED** this 3rd day of May, 2016.



CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
Michael Pipe, Chairman

  
Mark Higgins

  
Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

  
Denise L. Elbell, Acting Administrator